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# EMIGRATION.

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## LETTERS

FROM

## SUSSEX EMIGRANTS,

WHO SAILED FROM PORTSMOUTH,

IN APRIL, 1832, ON BOARD THE SHIPS

LORD MELVILLE AND EVELINE,

FOR

## UPPER CANADA.

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SECOND EDITION.

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SOLD BY JOHN PHILLIPS, PETWORTH; AND BY  
LONGMAN AND CO. LONDON.

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MDCCCXXXIII.

Price One Shilling.

1 - 1488

The Petworth Emigration Committee published in February last, a Collection of Letters from Settlers in Upper Canada, who had gone out under their management in 1832. To these were added, Extracts from various Writers on the Canadas, and from Canadian Newspapers,—Capt. Hale's Instructions to Emigrants,—and a Gazetteer of the Places named in the Letters.

The Edition being exhausted, and applications continuing to be made for Copies, the Committee have thought it expedient to reprint that part only of the Pamphlet, which contains the Letters, thereby reducing the price one half and rendering them more generally accessible.

Petworth Dec. 4th. 1833.

PETWORTH :  
PRINTED BY JOHN PHILLIPS, CHURCH STREET.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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In the beginning of the year 1832, a Committee was formed at Petworth, under the sanction of the Earl of Egremont, to afford assistance to such persons as might wish to emigrate to Canada; and the following paper was printed, and circulated in the neighbourhood.

*Petworth, March 1st. 1832.*

*Information to Persons desirous of emigrating from this neighbourhood, to Upper Canada.*

In the parish of Petworth, where the Earl of Egremont possesses nearly the whole of the land, his Lordship has signified his intention, of defraying the whole of the expence, of persons of approved character, wishing to proceed to Upper Canada; and, in any other parish in proportion to the property he owns in that parish. Encouraged by this liberal support, an engagement has been entered into, for the ship LORD MELVILLE, 425 \* Tons register, A. 1. coppered and copper fastened, and sheathed, with 7 feet height between decks, and extra ventilating scuttles, which is to be comfortably fitted up at Portsmouth, and to sail from thence for *Montreal*, direct, on the 5th. of April next. Passengers to be on board on the 4th. at latest. A superintendent (with his wife and family) goes out with Lord Egremont's party, and will conduct them direct to York, in Upper Canada, (in, or near, which city he intends to settle) paying every attention to their comforts on the route.

\* To afford ample space for the passengers, this ship is restricted to carry 76 fewer than allowed by Act of Parliament.

A surgeon also sails in this ship, whose duty it will be to attend (*gratis*) to the health of the passengers. The whole of the expence from Portsmouth to York, Upper Canada, is calculated, for adults, 10*l.* Children under fourteen years, 5*l.* Infants under 12 months, free.

On these terms, any persons, wishing to avail themselves of the peculiar advantages thus presented, may join the Petworth party, if they signify their intention to do so, on, or before Saturday, the 17th. day of March instant; and make a deposit (at the printer's) of 2*l.* for every adult passenger, and 1*l.* for every person under 14 years; engaging to pay the remainder, on going on board.

Persons particularly wishing to board themselves, may be conveyed with the Petworth party, from Portsmouth, to York, in Upper Canada, medical attendance, and every other expence included, for 5*l.*; or to Montreal *only*, should they not wish to proceed any farther, nor to avail themselves during the voyage of the assistance of the superintendent, for 3*l.* : 10 : 0 : but it is probable that they would find more comfort, and on the whole, less expence, by being boarded under his management. The sea stores contain brandy, porter, and several other articles likely to contribute to the comfort of the passengers; to be given out, under the direction of the surgeon, as circumstances may require.

*Experience has proved, that the practice pursued on many former occasions, of landing emigrants at the first American port, and leaving them with a small sum of money in their pockets, has exposed them to every kind of fraud and imposition; they having been soon pillaged of what they had, or led to squander it idly away, and thus left penniless, and without employment in a strange land. To guard against this evil, the above plan has been adopted, of conveying the emigrants, AT ONCE, to where work can, with certainty, be found; and placing them under the charge of a superintendent, whose business it will be, in conjunction with the government agent, to attend*

*to them till that object is obtained: little or no money is therefore required by labouring emigrants, on their arrival: still, any sum paid to the Petworth Committee, will be repaid at York, Upper Canada, into their hands, or to their account, as may be desired.*

Under these arrangements an excellent opportunity is afforded to respectable unmarried females, who may wish to join any relations or friends, already settled in Upper Canada; as they could be placed under the immediate protection of the superintendent and his wife.

\* List of Necessaries for Emigrants to Upper Canada.

*Families should take their*

- Bedding.
- Blankets.
- Sheets, &c.
- Pewter plates, or wooden trenchers.
- Knives and forks, and spoons.
- Metal cups and mugs.
- Tea kettles, and saucers.
- Working tools, of all descriptions.
- (A large tin can, or watering pot would be useful.)

*Single Men must have*

- A bed or mattress.
- A metal plate, or wooden trencher.
- Some kind of metal cup or mug.
- Knife, fork, and spoon.
- All, or any of which, may be procured at Portsmouth, if the parties arrive there unprovided.

Besides various other portable articles in domestic use (especially of metal) according as families may be provided. A cask not exceeding the size of a hogshead, or 60 gallons, affords an excellent and dry case, for packing such articles as are not likely to be wanted till the end of the voyage. All packages should be marked with the owners name, in large letters. Five hundred weight of luggage is allowed to be taken by each individual, above 14 years of age.

\* See Capt. Hale's Instructions, printed and sold by Phillips, Petworth; and Longman, London, price 2d. each, 1s. 6d. per dozen, or 12s. per hundred.

*The following is the lowest outfit, recommended to Parishes for their Labourers, of course, including such articles as they already possess.*

<b>A fur cap.</b>	<b>Two Jersey frocks.</b>
<b>A warm great coat.</b>	<b>Four shirts.</b>
<b>A flushing jacket &amp; trowsers.</b>	<b>Four pairs of stockings.</b>
<b>A duck frock and trowsers</b>	<b>Three pairs of shoes.</b>
<b>A canvas frock and two pairs of trowsers.</b>	<b>A bible and prayer book.</b>

Women in the same proportion, especially a *warm cloak*.

*All the above may be purchased at Petworth.*

It is also a matter of great importance, that emigrants should take with them a good character, (if they should have the happiness to possess one,) fairly written, and well attested ; also, copies of marriage or baptismal registers, or any other certificates or papers likely to be useful ; the whole to be inclosed in a small tin case.

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Soon after the publication of the above, all the passages on board the Lord Melville, were engaged ; and the Committee were compelled, for a time, to decline receiving any more deposits :—but the applications continuing to be very numerous, some of them from parishes in the adjoining counties, and from places not originally contemplated, (it having even been proposed to send one party overland from Royston, in Cambridgeshire,) they at length decided upon engaging the Eveline, another first class ship, and made arrangements, that both vessels should be brought up into the harbour of Portsmouth, and sail from thence, on the same day. This accordingly took place, on the 11th. of April, the number on board the two ships being as stated hereafter.

The passage was unfortunately longer, and more rough, than is usual at that season, to the great, though unavoidable, discomfort of many on board ; but the whole party, excepting one infant in each ship, (who died at sea) reached Quebec,

alive, and generally speaking, in good health. At that place, one unfortunate young man was drowned, in consequence of excess in drinking, and another from the same cause, at Montreal. (See *Neal*, p. 5.) The party quitted the latter place, just two days before the appearance of the cholera there, and (with one or two exceptions) entirely escaped its ravages, during their progress up the country; although it afterwards, unhappily broke out, with great violence, where some of them had settled. (See *Captain's letter*, p. 16.) After the emigrants arrived at York, they were forwarded to various places in the province, by direction of the Lt. Governor, Sir J. Colborne, and either settled on land, or got immediate employment, at high wages. They seem indeed to be so happily distributed, as to afford a hope, that, in the language of some of their own letters, they will not only, "*do themselves some good*," but also be able, materially to assist the first efforts, of those of their former neighbours, who may hereafter be disposed to join them: and it is not, perhaps, going too far, to indulge the expectation, that some of the settlements formed by these Sussex emigrants will, eventually, become of great importance in the province. One, in the fast improving government township of Adelaide, to which a considerable number of them was sent, has already been called by the Surveyor, "*Goatcher*," after the name of an industrious, and worthy man, from Pulborough, in this county, who had charge of the party in the Eveline.

It will be seen that the letters and extracts form a chronological series from the day of the sailing of the two ships, from Portsmouth, down to the date of the last letter (November 21st.). Many others have been received, but they are either not so explanatory, as those which are given, or merely contain repetitions of the same facts.

The Committee have taken considerable pains to obtain a sight of all the letters that have arrived, from those who

emigrated under their management, and they have not yet seen one, in which the writer regrets the steps he has taken, while expressions to the contrary are very numerous.

They are faithfully given in the very *words* of the writers, and even where, in some instances, the sense might seem to require a little alteration, that liberty has not been taken: the spelling alone (to save extra trouble, in copying and printing) has been corrected.

It is gratifying to observe the warm feelings of affection towards those they have left, and that innate love of country, so common to Englishmen, forcibly expressed in several of the letters: many of the emigrants contemplating a final return to their native soil and friends, with improved means, in a few years; others that they shall be able, at some future period, to visit the objects still so dear to them in this country, without abandoning the property they may have acquired in Canada.

Reports having been circulated, by persons unfriendly to emigration, that the very favourable accounts which had been received from preceding emigrants, were deceitful fabrications: many curious devices were practiced, by the friends of those who went from Sussex, to guard against the possibility of imposition. The paper on which letters from Canada were to be written, was prepared in England, either by a heading in the hand of a friend, a name written across, certain mystical holes pricked with a pin, or, what was more general, a sort of tally, formed by a corner of the paper being scrawled upon, and then torn off, the piece torn away being carefully preserved at home. In one instance, a very small, and peculiarly shaped, crooked pin, placed under the seal, came back from the "*far west*;" with especial directions, that this infallible proof should be again returned thither. These directions have been complied with, and the crooked pin, is now once more on its voyage.

On a comparison of these letters, with the extracts contained in the appendix, they will be found fully to confirm all that has been stated, on the advantages to be obtained by an industrious man, in emigrating to Canada. The only serious obstacle seems to be, the discomforts of the voyage, and the fatigues of the subsequent journey up the country from Montreal; altho' even these are spoken very lightly of, by some of the letter writers, and by others not noticed at all.

A voyage across the Atlantic, must of necessity, be attended by inconveniences, discomforts and even sufferings, (to some constitutions) which it is not in human power, entirely to prevent; still, they may be alleviated; and should the Committee ever again fit out a ship, they hope to do so in a considerable degree, by an improved arrangement of the berths, especially, as concerns the accommodation of families, and by making a larger allowance of space to individuals, generally. \*Under their former plan, it was stipulated, that the number taken on board, should not exceed three fourths of that allowed by the act of parliament, called the passengers act, but on any future similar occasion, they would diminish the number still further. Profiting also by experience and information, they would lay in such provisions, for those who might not chuse to board themselves, as should be suited, as far as possible, to their usual modes of living; and would endeavour to engage, as general superintendent, some person who has been regularly brought up to the sea, and whose previous habits would enable him, to be of most use to those under his care, at the time when his services would be most needed. With respect to the journey up the country, after leaving Montreal, the fatigues and irksomeness of this part of the expedition, are almost wholly got rid of, by the completion of the Rideau Canal, and facilities afforded by a newly invented steamer, which has been found capable of stemming the

\* See *Letter to a M. P. printed and sold by J. Phillips, Petworth, and Longman and Co. London, Price 6d.*

\*

currents at Matilda, and the upper part of the St. Lawrence. The emigrants would also have the assistance of the superintendent; a part of whose engagement it would be, to conduct such of them as might desire it to York; or Hamilton; or any other port at the head of Lake Ontario.

Those who have made up their minds to emigrate, but are still hesitating, whether they will go to the United States or to Canada, are advised to peruse a recent publication entitled "United States or Canada;" which contains much forcible reasoning on the subject, founded on personal observation.

The Committee particularly wish to call the attention of every emigrant to Capt. Hale's "Instructions:" they are the result of much personal experience, and are so clearly expressed, that it is impossible to misunderstand, and so good, that it is impossible not to benefit by obeying, them.

#### T. SOCKETT.

Petworth,  
February 4th. 1833.

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*From Stephen Goatcher, late of Pulborough, Sussex.*

July 6th. 1832.

DEAR WIFE,

(*The first part is omitted, as it relates entirely to family affairs*) \* \* \* \* \* I never was sick at all, but there were a great number that were very sick : the weather was very cold when we came to Newfoundland, snow lay on the mountains : they had a hard winter at Quebec : they were sowing wheat : it is a very cold place. I saw the water-fall (June 24th.) at Niagara ; our schooner lay about 2 miles off : it was the most wonderful sight that ever my eyes beheld : it is much the same as Mrs. .... book relates. James Parker, his wife and family are all well, also Napper, and his wife and family, and hope all their friends are well at home. I cannot give you much account of Canada at present, only most of things dear. The flies are very troublesome; there are great number, and are different from those in England. We are now on our way to Kettle Creek, which I expect to be my home. The people seem very bad farmers. Whisky very cheap. I should like to know how you are doing, and how your crop is coming along. I hope you will have a plentiful harvest, and all things going on well. I hear the reform bill is thrown out. It has been reported the Duke of Wellington is dead. The people are very much afraid that we had got the cholera; we have often been inspected by surgeons. I would advise any of my friends not to come to this country in so large a party ; if they do, they will find it unpleasant. I had a great deal of trouble, 250 people to feed every day.\* When I arrived at York, I went to the Governor ; a very fine man : it was like a king's palace : the gold laid on his shoulders : he said he would send us to the best land in Canada. I lived with Captain Royal, in the ship Eveline, in the cabin, on fresh meat and fowls. You will think it long before you receive this letter ; I hope it will find you all well, with Wm. and his family. I often think of you all. Remember me to my sisters and brother, and Mr. Clements, and Mr. Parry, and my old friend Mr. Comper and all the family, Mr. Challen and his family, and all my old friends wheresoever they may be. We are now arrived in the woods, but what we are

\* Mr. Goatcher was Superintendent of the Party in the Eveline.

to do, we do not know at present. The mosquitoes are very troublesome. I think of having some land, but it is not settled at present : the land is very good. I think of taking James Parker and family with me. When I get settled, I will write to you again. We are too late for any crop this year, but I hope we shall find one another year : the land is very full of timber, very tall, three times as lofty as yours in England. Now, Mr. Comper, you wish to know something about the country : it looks very well to me at present. You wish to know the appearance of the country : by what I can see at present, the land is the best quality, but it is all covered with heavy timber : they say they can clear an acre for about £4. There are no underwoods nor bushes at all, but the timber is cut and burnt altogether. The system of farming is this, they burn it off, and harrow the wheat in, without ploughing. In this place there is not one stone to be found ; it is black loam. Their wheat is very fine : barley they do not sow ; but I think it would bear good barley. They raise a great deal of Indian corn. Where I think of settling, the government are making a new road through : they say that a coach will pass through before long. There is a mill not far distant, and a saw mill is making. There is plenty of good land for all the people in your country : they would not want to work on the road, as they do in your country. The people are very kind to us : they are very fond of the English. The weather is very hot : more so than in England. Last winter was the hardest that ever they remember. I cannot tell you where to write to me at present. Remember me to the Rev. J. Austin. I shall write to you before long, and then I shall give you more account. John Burchell I forgot. I hope it will find you all well. So no more from your ever loving and dutiful husband,

STEPHEN GOATCHER.

To Mrs. GOATCHER,  
Pulborough, Sussex.

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*The gentleman named in this letter is Mr. Heming (son of a late clergyman at Chichester.)*

\*       \*       \*       I am happy to say that my sister received a letter from her son on Sunday last ; we did not hear of it until the next evening. He writes from Guelph, on the 19th. of July, but the letter is dated on the

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outside the 23rd : it is a very satisfactory account. I only hope he has not been too precipitate in settling himself, for he has already bought an estate ; but he seems to have made his choice with some discretion, as far as we can judge from our own inferences drawn from his letter. He has bought 230 acres of the company, only 2½ miles from Guelph ; the land is *uncleared*. He says that almost all the land that is to be bought cleared, having been first taken by people with little or no capital, is generally exhausted, and must be left fallow for three years to recover itself ; and therefore does not answer. He says the land near Guelph is higher in price than he expected, that it sells for 17s. 6d. per acre, so I suppose he has given that for it : the chief timber is maple bass, (a sort of pine I believe) beech, and oak, and these I believe bespeak a good quality of land : there is a good road, (he is on the *Eramosa* road) a grist mill, and two saw mills ; the situation is high ; and, he thinks, it must be healthy : and, as the land is selling off fast there, it must be an improving place, and not so far out of the world as Goderich : there are three or four springs of good water on the lot : he thinks he shall be able to procure three acres more which will give him the command of a river. York, he says, is in a very unhealthy situation, the land about it not near so good as at Guelph : he was still with Mr. Penfold, from whom, he says, he has experienced great kindness and attention, and I should rather suppose he thinks of settling thereabouts, but Edward does not say so.

\* \* \* \*

I hope Edward will do well : he seems quite delighted with his prospects.

\*

He says he makes sure of seeing us all out there ere long, he hears such bad accounts of poor old England ; we are going to send him out as quickly as we can a collection of seeds, and his saddle, which he has written for.

*From Richard Neal, of Sutton, Sussex, to his Friends.*

Dundas, North America,  
July 20th. 1832.

DEAR FRIENDS AND RELATIONS,

I take this opportunity of these few lines to you, hoping to find you all in good health, as it leaves me at

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present. Thank God we landed safe at Quebec, after seven weeks sail. We had a very rough passage. I enjoyed good health all the way over; I never had one hour sickness all the time we were on the sea. They were most all sea sick. Joseph Leggett and Elias were a little sick, but not much. On the first of May we lost one of the sailors, and was one of the roughest days we had, but were toss'd about very much. We saw a large quantity of porpoises coming over, and whale fishes blow water as high as the mast head. We were about six weeks out of sight of land. The first land we saw was Cape Breton, a large mountain covered with snow. The 19th. and 21st. May we entered the river of St. Lawrence, which was 400 miles long before we came to Quebec, some places 50 miles wide, and some places not so much. We saw snow for about 200 miles up the river, and the trees were coming out in leaf; as fast as we go up the country the forwarder the land is. When we landed at Quebec, a great many of the men (spirits being so cheap) drunk so much, it made them crazy: one of them got drowned there, and another at Montreal. We were at Quebec two days. There was six large ships towed up the river by one steam boat: the name of the steam boat was John Bull, 245 horse power. 180 miles from Quebec to Montreal. They were all French people there. You can buy rum 10d. per quart, port wine 1s. 3d. per quart: all the other liquors very cheap: cider about 6d. per quart. I was offered 5s. 6d. per day at Montreal, but I did not wish to stop. We went into the woods and found plenty morels, just like them in England; but the people did not know what they was; then we started for Little York, which is about 500\* miles further, all by water. When we landed at York, some went one way and some the other. I stopped there, Elias and Joseph Leggett went on with Hilton, 180 miles further: § they promised to write to me, but I have had no letter from them; but I saw two men that went up with them: they both got work for one man: and Setson Charman's wife's brothers they have got a good place, 12 dollars a month and their board. A man will get more a month here, with his board, than in England without. I have not seen any game about here, but there is pheasants and hares, and thousands of pigeons, a few bears, and

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\* 355 Miles.

§ To Fort George, Niagara. v. Elliott's Letter, Sept. 24th.

wolves, but a very few. There is a great many cherries in the woods, gooseberries and nuts. I promised to send you the state of the country : I will as well as I can. This is a good country for one thing, the people are all of one sort, pretty much : their servants lives with their masters, and they gets good wages : but it is very hot in the summer, and very cold in the winter. I do not like this country so well as England, for men are not so strong as they are in England ; nor the meat is not so good, but very cheap. I left York, and went to Dundas, and got a job there for a man of the name of Pope : he has been here five years, and is doing very well. I have 5s. a day, and board and lodging, for which I have to take 2s. 6d. per day in store, what they call it : you must take clothes, shoes, hats, or any thing that your master works for, and I take 15s. a week, paid in money. Clothes is very dear here. Any man can earn enough in three days to keep a wife and family a week. Dear father and mother, do not make yourselves uneasy about me, for I am doing very well ; but I do not like it so well as in England, but I can come back when I like, if it pleases God. Bricklayer is a good trade here, and can earn a great deal of money after you gets known. Send me all the news you can, and I will send you more next time. Tell James Clarke that I do not persuade him to come over to stay, but here is plenty of work, and good pay. I will send you another letter in the course of a few weeks ; then I shall be able to say more about the country. Direct to

RICHARD NEAL, Bricklayer,

Dundas, Upper Canada,

Near the Lake Ontario,

North America.

Put down by New York.

You must pay the letter to the water.

So no more at present, from your affectionate brother.

RICHARD NEAL.

Kind love to father and mother, and all my friends, which there is too many to mention. Write to me as soon as you gets this letter.

*The two following letters were both written on a sheet of paper, from which a corner had been torn, and left with a relation in England.*

*From Edward Boxall, late resident at Coldwaltham, Sussex, formerly a Soldier in the 36th. Regiment.*

Adelaide, Upper Canada,  
July 28th. 1832.

DEAR MOTHER,

I take this opportunity to acquaint you that we arrived here safe, and in good health, on the 6th. July. Dear mother, I was very fortunate, in bringing my discharge with me; for I found, when I landed at York on the 23rd. June, that a'l who could shew their discharge, was entitled to a hundred acres of land, from the crown for their service, which I accordingly got; so if either of my nephews, or both of them, should like to come over here, I will give them some land to work upon. Tell them to bring some tools, and all the money they can get, with them, and some upland seed, of all descriptions, and garden seeds too, and barley in particular. Wm. Cooper's land joins mine, but he have got to pay two dollars per acre for his, and 6 years to do it in. Here is a river runs through the corner of my lot, and plenty of fish in it; and here is wild deer, and turkeys, pheasants, partridges, and rabbits; and any body may kill them. Catharine is very well at present, but she was very sea sick coming over, for some time: she sends her kind love to Ruth, and all their brothers and sisters, and all friends. Copy this letter, and send it to my sisters, and tell them I will build them a house, if they will come over here to live. So no more at present from yours,

EDWARD & CATHARINE BOXALL.

*From William Cooper, late of Burton, Sussex.*

Adelaide, Upper Canada,  
July 28th. 1832.

Dear father and mother, brothers and sisters, I hope this will find you in good health, as it leaves me at present. I have been very well ever since I left England: we were

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seven weeks coming to Montreal, and five weeks more coming up to Kettle Creek. I have got 100 acres of land, at 2 dollars per acre, and one fourth to be paid for at the end of 3 years, and the rest in 3 years more. In English money, it comes to £41. 13s. 4d. in all. Tell my brother James I saw Richard Carter and his wife at Little York : they are doing very well, and said this would be a good opportunity for them to have come out to this country. I should like for all my brothers to come here ; for here is plenty of work, and no doubt but we shall do very well after next harvest. Edward Boxall, and his wife, and Wm. Phillips from Merston, and we, have built us a Shantee, and lives and works altogether on our own land. We have got above 2 acres cleared, and shall sow 6 or 7 acres of wheat this autumn, and more in the spring. Dear father, I should like to have a malt mill, and a few pounds of thread, and above all things, a Newfoundland dog for myself ; and take this letter to Merston, to Phillips' father, and tell him to be sure to bring him a dog, to catch the deer, and tell you what time of the year they means to come out ; so that you may all come together. Answer this as soon as you receive it. I have to tell wheat is now selling, at 1 dollar a bushel ; beef at  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per pound ; and mutton the same ; and pork 4d. per pound in English money. Spirits is very cheap here. Farmers' men gets from 3 to 12 dollars a month, and board and lodgings, and washing and mending. I have no more to say at present, so I must conclude, with my kind love to you all. I remain your dutiful son,

WILLIAM COOPER.

Direct to William Cooper, Township of Adelaide, to be left at Colonel Mount's, Delaware, North America.

*From John Luff, late of Bury, Sussex, aged 15 years.*

Nelson, July 29th. 1832.

DEAR SIR,

This letter is to inform you of your humble servant, John Luff : we arrived at York on the 23rd. day of June. I might have got three places at Montreal, but as I was a waiting for Mr. . . . . I did not go, so I came to York, and from York about 30 miles up the country ; and I went to work on the road, and Mr. . . . . did not come for me ; so I am living with Jacob Triller, and am living in the

Township of Nelson, District of Gore, County of Halton,  
the Province of Upper Canada ; and I like Canada far better  
than England.

*This lad has neither father nor mother living, and made  
repeated applications to the Overseers of Bury to pay his ex-  
pence of his conveyance to Canada.—His request was at length  
complied with, and the above is addressed to the said Overseer.*

*On the same sheet was the following.*

DEAR AUNT FOSTER, at FITTLEWORTH, near PETWORTH ;

I hope you will give yourself no more uneasiness about me at present ; though the distance is far that we are from each other, I should like to see you once more, though I am resigned to the will of him that devises all things. I think at present that the country above mentioned, that I now live in, is a good, and a wholesome, and a pleasant one, as far as I am judge : the prospects of gaining property are pleasing : and may say the same of my master : whether we shall have the pleasure of seeing each other, in this world again, God only knows ; if we should not, I wish you would join with me in writing, it seems to be the only satisfaction we can have here. Nothing more at present, but remaining yours truly,

JOHN LUFF.

*From George Hill, late a Labourer, at Sullington, Sussex.*

Ancaster, August 5th. 1832.

\* \* \* \* \* We were six days coming up from Montreal to Prescott, which was a very tedious journey. The boats are drawn up the rapids in some bad places, with 8 or 10 yoke of oxen \* \* \* We have been here 5 weeks : I like the country here very much, but my wife don't seem to be quite so well contented yet. I got work the first day I was here, and have had plenty of work ever since. I got six shillings per day (New York currency) which is 3s. 9d. English money, and be boarded. Farmers and labourers all sit at one table here.

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We get 5s. per day, English money, and be boarded. I don't wish to persuade any one to come over, for they must expect to see a good many hardships; but I know that a poor man can do a great deal better here than he can at home: he is sure to get plenty of work, if he is steady, and can live cheaper. Paddock and me have rented a very good house at £1. per month, English money. I have bought a cow for £5. and a young sow for 12s. 6d. We work here from sun rise to sun set; but we don't work so hard as we do at home. We rest through the day very often: they are not particular here about losing a little time, as they are at home. Jane\* is out at service for a year, at 10s. per month, English money. George § is with a Mr. Gabriel Gurnett † of Horsham, a saddler. Dear father and mother, we left you almost broken-hearted, but you may be satisfied that we have bettered our condition by coming here. \* \* \* \* \*

*From the same.*

*Ancaster, August 6th. 1832.*

DEAR BROTHER AND SISTER,

\* \* \* \* \* I do not persuade you to come against your will: we can live cheaper here than you can in England. There is a great many difficulties in getting here: if you come you will have me to come to: when I came, I had no one to go to. Dear brother, if you do come, it will be the happiest hour I ever knew. \* \* \* \* No beer in this country: plenty of whisky, 1s. a quart, but that is only 7½d. in our country. We like the country very well, and it is a pleasant place. \* \* \*

There is no beggars in this country, nor any carriages. Dear Elizabeth, Sister; here is my kind love to you and all your family. I hope you will be satisfied that this letter comes from me: make yourself contented, for I think I shall do myself some good; better than if I had been in England.

\* \* \* I neglected writing to you before, but it was on account of my child being so ill so long: through my having so much trouble, that made me wish I had never left England, but I think I shan't after a while. Almost all my neighbours come from the States, and they like this country best, &c. &c.

\* Aged 12 years.

§ Aged 10 years.

† i. e. Late of Horsham, Sussex.

*From William Philips, of Singleton, near Midhurst, Sussex, Shoemaker.*

*Ancaster, August 5th. 1832.*

**Mrs. NEWELL,**

At your request, I have now taken the opportunity of sending this letter, hoping to find you and all friends, in good health, particularly my father, and mother, and brother. I am in very good health at present, thanks be to God for it, and have been ever since I left England. Here is a great deal of sickness in the country, the cholera morbus is raging very much in some places. I promised I would send the best account of the country that I could : so I intend to do. It is a fine country ; but it is not half like England ; every thing being very mean, when compared to that : yet a person may get a very good living, by working hard : for there is a great many hardships in coming out here ; so I would advise them that can get a comfortable living at home, to bide there : but they as cannot, why they cannot change for the worst. Here is plenty of work ; but it is very different for what it is at home. They here all work by the month: so much for a month and their board. They have not much money ; so that you are obliged to take part in money, and part in goods: here being a great deal of barter amongst them. If you work a month, and can get all your wages in cash, it is thought much of : you can sometimes, and that is best for single men : but they that have families, why it is not much difference, as they must buy for them, if they did not so, as it is almost always in provisions. (*here follows a long list of prices, and explanations about the currency, which have been omitted, as they are more correctly given in Cottermole, Doyle, &c.*) I am working at my trade for a master, and likes it very well at present. I have been here 3 weeks. Ancaster is 50 miles above York : it is a pleasant village. The land in this country is, as in England, some very good and some bad ; and so are the crops. Here is fine orchards ; but the fruit is not half so good as with you : it being more of a wild nature. As for their gardens there is no variety in them, as they plant very little but french beans and potatoes, the winters being too cold, and the summers too hot, for vegetables ; so they say. I have a great deal more to tell you all, but I have not room for it in a sheet of paper, so I hope you will be satisfied with this little. I want to tell you a little about how we got here. I sailed

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in the ship named The Eveline : there was 450 passengers on board, but they were all strangers to me. We left Portsmouth the 11th. April, and arrived at Quebec May 28th. I was very well all the passage, and was not the least sea sick; yet a great many were, nearly all the passage, as it was very stormy and rough. \* \* \* I am very much obliged to ..... and Mrs. ..... for their charity to me, as I had £2. to take at York, and the superintendent said they gave it me.

Tell my father to write to me as soon as possible, as I long to hear from them all. My love and respects to all Singleton folks: I have not mentioned any of their names, for it is to them all. So no more at present from your well wisher,

Wm. PHILIPS.

Direct to W. Philips,  
*Ancaster, Upper Canada,*  
*North America.*

*From John Stedman, late of Hascomb, Surrey.*

August 7th. 1832.

Dear Father and Mother and little John.

\* \* \* Thank God that I am in a state of health at present, and as happy as any person in the world; and I hope you are all the same. \* \* \* We landed at Quebec the 28th. of May; that made our passage 7 weeks. I went on shore there about 6 hours, on purpose to see the Town, and I was glad to step my foot on land again. I had 1 lb. of beef steak and 2 quarts of cider; then come on board of the ship, and sailed to Montreal; which was 160 miles farther. We was fowed up by the steam boat called the John Bull: then we left the ship. We laid in the storehouse 3 days, before we could get boats to take us to Prescot, which was 160 miles further. When we got to Prescot, we took steam boats to take us to York, (which) was 160 miles further still; but I in good spirits all the time. I thought we should get there some time, if it was please God; but when we left Prescot for York, we crossed a lake, we was overtaken by a dreadful tempest: we was within 30 or 40 miles of York: we then was driven back on the shore, about 80 mil s from York again: then Matthew and I thought that we would walk to York then, as it was no further than 80 miles: we thought we

[should] get there as soon as the boat could. Dear father and mother, and when we got to York, the boat had been there and unloaded all the passengers, which was 250, and all from the same ship as I sailed in, called the ship Eveline, from London. We all thought of going by land to any place where they get to when we got [to] York, but all them that was sent out by the parishes, was put into large Canada boats, and sent to Kettle Creek, at St. Talbots settlement, 280 miles further still ; and had been gone just two hours [when] we got into York town. We went to the emigrant's office, to know where they was gone to ; for they had all our things on board, along [with] the other luggage, that was altogether all the way over : then we got directions, and steered across the country to Kettle Creek, which is 170 miles by land ; but they gave us a letter at the office, to give the tavern keepers along the road, as long as we lost our passage, to get victuals, and a place to lie down in, when night come ; and to direct us the best road they could ; but we got to our journey's end before the rest of them got, a week. As we was waiting for [our] things to come ashore, a man wanted us to go and cut some grass for him : we then thought we might as well go to work, as to wait about after our chests, as [we] should be getting something in pocket, In a week after we went to work, we heard the boat was come in with our things : then we went [to] get the chests, which was just 8 miles from the place where we was at work. We was mowing 16 days there, and 3 days of harvest ; then he give us the chance to go [and] seek for some reaping, as his was not ripe. We went to farmer ······ for reaping : he asked me if I would hire by the year : he said that he would give [me] one hundred dollars, board, lodging, washing [and] mending, for the year ; so I thought it wise to hire, as long as I had that chance, as I was a stranger in the country ; then I thought, I should be sure of a home in the winter ; as they say it was very cold last winter, I thought that the best to do. Thank God, I have got a good master and mistress, and we lives upon the best of every thing. I never wish to have a better home than I got at present. Thank God, I am well and hearty, and hope that I shall remain so.

Dear friends, I will give my opinion of this country, which you call it, America, but [if you] knew so much about it as I do in this short time, you would wish you had America at home : for I can assure you that this [is a] good country for any person : if [he] do not choose [to] go [to] farm-

ing, he may always get work in, if [he] choose : but I myself, please God I have health and strength, when my year is out, I have 100 dollars to take, then if [I] have good luck, I think I shall get me 100 acres of land ; as I may work for myself at times, and not work for other people any longer than I am forced : for when [I] get a bit of land cleared, and get tired of this country, I [can] sell my land, at any time, for that is [the] best thing that a man can do in this country, is to get land as soon as he can. I can get land, not cleared, at from 1 dollar to 5 dollars : the man that I live with, had nothing when he begun, but 1 dollar, when he (bought) 200 acres for 400 dollars, and 4 years credit for it : now he has 700 acres where I live, and has just bought 1000 acres more. He gave a man [a] job of chopping of land, and gave him so much land for clearing of some for him every year. He (sowed) 70 acres of wheat, and is going to sow as much this fall. Wheat is very dear this fall : it is 60 pence per bushel; peas is 30 pence ; and Indian corn is all cut off by the frost; for it is a very cold place in the winter. But I like the country very well, at present, but it is a short time ; but I have never wished myself at Hascomb, not as yet, thank God for it. So my dear father and mother, give my love to uncles and aunts, and all enquiring friends, and tell them if [they] lived as [I] can in this country, it [would be a] comfort to them ; for [I] can get what cloathing I want, in about 3 miles where I live ; and as cheap as it is in England. You think there is nothing to [be] had, but I can tell you better : there is any thing you want. Tell little John, that he must grow as fast as he can, and come to me, [and] never abide in that country. So no more from [your] loving [son,]

JOHN STEDMAN.

You are there, and I am here ; I live in hopes (to) meet again where the Angels do also.

Direction for John Stedman, at Mr. Foster's, the Town of Malahide, County of Middlesex, in London District, Upper Canada, North America ; which I am about 4000 miles from home.

For Mr. JAMES G. STEDMAN,  
At Hascomb,  
near Godalming,  
in the County of Surrey,  
Old England.

*From John Capelain, late of Lurgashall, to his Brother, at  
Luryushall.*

Huron Tract, Upper Canada,  
August 28th. 1832.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

I take the opportunity of writing these few lines to you, to inform you of our distress and trouble. After a very rough passage of twelve weeks, by the help of the Almighty God, we arrived safe to land; except the loss of two babes, Ned Luff's youngest, and Wm. Tickner's youngest child; but we then thought ourselves safe, but the Almighty was pleased to send a very great affliction upon us. In a few days after we arrived at our intended place of settlement, I lost my poor little Mary for the first; then my poor dearest wife; then my two youngest, and little Edmund; all in the space of eight days: but, dear brother, I am not the only one the Almighty was pleased to send the affliction upon: poor Joseph Kinshott was the first; and his sister, Nathan Morley's wife were next; and, I am very sorry to inform my poor brother in law; poor Bob is gone: likewise the two young Lander's. There was 32 of us that came up into the woods together, and there is twelve of the 32 dead: the complaint was the cholera morbus: they all died in the space of a fortnight: there (was) none laid ill but a few days. Dear brother, I should like to know what my brother in law should like to be done with poor Bob's things: he had no money, I think his things to (be) worth £6.: (it) is now in (the) possession of Nathan Morley. My dear brother, I am very sorry to send you this unpleasant account; but it is all owing to the affliction the Almighty was pleased to send upon us: for I can see (a) good prospect for a good living to be got. Flour is 7 dollars a barrel, which is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  bushels; that is the highest price: after another harvest, it will be lower, no doubt; as we shall all grow our own; and now it is brought a long way up the country. Mutton I kill, and sell out: I can afford to sell it 3d. per lb. beef  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. butter about  $9\frac{1}{2}$ d: but I shall keep a cow, and make my own next summer. I have nothing, no keep for a cow, this winter. Dear brother, if my brother William could take the heart to come, there shall be a home for him, as soon as he comes; for I have got a comfortable house up, and 100 acres of land, full of timber; and he shall have part of it: but I will not persuade any one to come, tho' I can see much better prospects here, than in England. If he should, let

him bring what ready money he can, and not provide a parcel of things, as I did ; for things is as cheap *here*,\* as in England, and tools cheaper. Let him bring a few onesided oats ; a little barley ; gooseberry and currant cuttings. My dear brother, remember me to all relations, and all enquiring friends. I hope, by the blessing of God, you are all well, as I thank God it leaves me, and the remainder of my family, at present. I hope you will write to me, as soon as you can. I remain your affectionate brother,

**JOHN CAPELAIN.**

Mrs. Kingshott's (love) to all her husbands family, and is sorry to say, she has the inexpressible grief, to say she lost her dear and only friend, 29th. June, in about 23 hours ; and in sixteen days after, her youngest child : she expects every day, to go to Oxford, 25 miles distant, to settle with a school. As soon as Mrs. Kingshott gets to Oxford, she will send her friends all the particulars : she, and her two children, is very poorly : she wants for nothing : she meets with the greatest of friendship. I have not heard of Wm. Tickner, since we left York. He went in another vessel, farther up the lake. We have not heard that any more died, than those who came here, except Edward Luff; and he died at Hamilton. We are 100 miles from York.

Direct to me No. 13, 1st. Concession,  
Huron Tract,  
South Easthope, Upper Canada,  
America.

*Extract of a Letter from Charlotte Evans (formerly Charlotte Tribe) to her Brother (Robert Tribe,) Dean, near Petworth.*

Waterloo, August 18th. 1832.

\* \* \* \* \* Robert Chalwin  
is dead ; he wished to make his home with us, but his  
(Uncle) would not let him stay, but took his things with him.  
14 that came out of Lurgashall Parish, Mrs. Morley, Joseph  
Kingshott, Henry Lander and Brother, Ned Luff, Henry  
Gogger is dead. Dear Robert, Benjamin says, if he could

\* i. e. *In the Huron Tract.*

have the two Robert's and Neddy, (or Biddy) between them, he never would want to see England again. Give Ben's love to Henry Baker, Robert Kingshott. Our love to Mr. and Mrs. Hill, and all the children. Jesse (Penfold,) James (Rapson,) and Benjamin (Tribe,) are building a house ; and you and family, shall have a house when you come.

Dear Father and Mother ! and we all send our best love to you ; and Wife, and her Father, and Mary's love to Mrs. Sanders ; and give my best love to Miss Upfold ; and let her see the letter : and tell her when she writes to Mrs Evans, to give my love, and let her know that I shall write when I get settled, as I have altered my name since I came to this country. I have married an Irishman, that has got land from the King ; and we should be on it before, but for the sickness that prevails in the part of the country, where the land lies.

When you come bring 2 pair of shoes, high ; very strong : Chalwin to make them : bring your clock : also bring every thing you want (for) housekeeping. In this country, as you pay no duty for any things coming: you will not be examined. If you could, I wish you would bring 12 yards of waistcoat flannel, and I shall refund you the money with thanks. Bring some net for caps ; and some for borders ; in fact any things in the wearing way, you will get paid for in this part of America. Your trade, working by the day in this country, pay 5s. and the best of boarding, and abundance of employment.

Wishing you and your family, a happy voyage to this country, which shall be the prayer of your affectionate Charlotte and myself.

(The Letter is signed by Charlotte Tribe's husband.)

JOSEPH NEUROKE EVANS.

Directions.

HENRY TRIBE, Galt, Upper Canada.

*From Thomas Adsett, formerly of Northchapel, to Thomas Scutt, his Father in law, Bignor, near Petworth.*

September 9th. 1832.

DEAR FATHER,

I am sorry to be the messenger of bad news : but we are in a land of disappointment : if we go to bed at night, well and hearty, we may not rise in the morning alive.

April 11th. Set sail from Portsmouth. Fair wind for some days. Children and Wife quite well, self quite sick, and so I continued for a month. May 19th. Harriet failed with the hooping cough, and continued getting worse : wife and the children quite well, all the way over. June 2nd. reached Quebec; 7th. to Montreal ; after a passage of 8 weeks and 1 day ; and almost all the way very rough sea. Here we left the Melville, and took the Durham Boats : here we was put hard to it, being exposed to the weather until we reached York. 19th. reached York : Harriet kept getting worse : we did not stop at York above 5 or 6 hours : next came to Hamilton: wife failed in eating : left and came to Waterloo : child very bad ; wife quite poorly ; and kept getting worse. July 1st. Harriet died. 2nd wife very bad. 3rd. died. The doctor said, that it was the scarlet fever ; the other children all well. Sarah (2½ years old) a gentleman by the name of Chapman, a Carpenter, came and took her, the 7th. Charles (6 years old) is at a Weavers : Emma (7 years old) is at a Mr Tottles, in Dumfries ; and are well ; and like the place quite well. I get plenty of work at 5s. York, that is 2s. 3½ of your money, and board. Here is plenty of whisky, at 1s. per quart ; here is no beer ; and the water is not so good in many places as in England. They live in quite a different way to what they do in the old country ; but they live much better. The produce is wheat ; oats ; winter barley ; rice ; indian corn ; and potatoes ; but this is truly the wooden world. If we find so many houses as at Crouch, we should think that we should be in a city : the houses are about half a mile a part. Here is plenty of pheasants ; and pigeons ; and deer, that will weigh 20 stone ; and bears ; foxes ; wolves ; and hares. I can say no more at present. Write to me as soon as possible, and send word how they all are. Direct, Thomas Adsett, Galt, Dumfries, U. Canada, N. America.

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*From Simeon Titmouse, who, together with several others, went from Bassingbourn, Cambridgeshire, with the Petworth Party.*

Dundas, Upper Canada, North America.  
Sept. 11th. 1832.

DEAR SIR,

After we left home for America, we were seven weeks before we reached Quebec, and about a fortnight after, we arrived where we now are. Our passage was very rough,

but we landed safe. This country is quite different from home : but there are better doings for labouring people, here, than at home. We can make a better living than we could in England. People are generally engaged by the month, and get about ten dollars for that time. I have been with the principal man of this place a month : and may stay some time. The wife and children are well, at present ; but this is rather a sickly country, the people being very subject to ague. We hope we shall, in a little time, like America very well. Corn is about 5s. a bushel. Pork, mutton, beef, &c. 3d. or  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.; capital good tea, from 4s. to 5s. per lb.; pretty good sugar, at about 4d. or 5d. per lb.; potatoes, about 1s. 6d. per bushel; clothing pretty reasonable, but tailors' wages are very high : the women generally make men's apparel; but mark ! money, or cash, is very bad to catch. People must be very wary when they first come into the country, otherwise they will be very much imposed on ; people often hire new comers for a month, and then take occasion to quarrel with them and turn them off, without their wages ; but still, if one place does not do, another will. The appearance of the country is no way enticing, being principally woody. The houses are not so comfortable as at home ; as they are all wooden ones ; or mostly so. Land may be purchased at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  dollars to 4 dollars an acre ; uncleared ; or, in other words, a perfect wood : cleared farms will cost much more an acre. Wm. Bloes has not engaged for the month yet ; but has  $\frac{1}{2}$  a dollar a day, for every day he works, and has had work most of the time ; but the work we have to do is quite different to what it was at home. John Shambrink, and John Racher live about two miles from us : Racher is engaged for a year, 115 dollars his wages ; house reut free ;  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre of land for a garden ; and fire wood found gratis. Shambrink has had the ague ; and his daughter is living where I am engaged by the month. The country is discouraging at first, but the longer one is in it, the better one begins to like it. Any stout, hard labouring man, with a family, may do better in this country for them, than he can do at home : but remember ; he will have to work pretty hard and long days. But abundance of trouble and disappointment await those who come at first, and it takes a little time, and patience to get over them ; and many a one loses his life in the encounter, either by sickness or misfortune ; but I am happy to tell you, we are all safe and well. Simeon Titmouse and Wm. Bloes live in the same village, (viz. Dundas) and

(are) engaged in working as above stated. Summers are hotter here; and we are told, winters are colder, and longer, than in England. A good cow may be purchased from 3 to 4 pounds: apples, in abundance, about 1s. per bushel; but with all these appearances of things being cheap, they are dear enough in proportion to the money we receive; because they often pay wages by shop goods, either eatables, or wearing apparel. Please give our best remembrances and respects to all friends, particularly fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters and remain

Dear Jackson

Yours very faithful

SIMEON TITMOUSE.

Wm. Bloes' wife was confined at Montreal; a little girl; quite well and hearty: this event took place on the 4th. June 1832: she had a very good time, and got very good friends. Please to let us hear from you as soon as convenient after receiving this; and acquaint us with all particulars, and how you all are. Give my love to John Flanders, and tell him, he might buy 5 acres of land, for what he might give for a rood at home.

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*From Obed Wilson, aged 18, late of Bassingbourn, Cambridgeshire.*

Ernest Town, August 5th. 1832.

DEAR PARENTS,

I take this opportunity to inform you, that I am well; hoping that these few lines will find you the same. I was seven weeks coming over: I was three weeks sea sick; but I arrived safe. I have seen Edward Clear, at Montreal. I have got a place, at one Sylvester Lambkin's, a new married couple, and I like them very well, at present. I have sixty dollars a year. I live thirteen miles from Kingston. I like the ways of the place very well at present. My mate and the rest have gone on to York, and I have not heard of him since. I want to know whether Edward is coming over; if he is, put it in your letter. Remember me to my old master, and mistress, and all enquiring friends. So no more at present. I remain your dutiful Son, until death.

I want you to write as soon as possible. Direct your letter to R Hough, at Ernest Town, thirteen miles from Kingston.

*From William T. Upton, formerly of Fittleworth, Sussex.*

Andross Mills, Nelless Settlement,  
September 16th. 1832.

DEAR MOTHER,

I arrived at Montreal on the 1st. of June, where we stopt 1 week : from there we came up the country in Durham boats, and steam boats to York, where I stopt another week, waiting for Clifford [his brother] with my box, as it was put into the wrong ship : when he came to York he had lost it, by its being misplaced in one of the boats. I was in a terrible way about it, but I thought it must be gone either to Hamilton ; Kettle Creek ; or left in the steam boat: I therefore started to Hamilton, to look for it ; and there found it in a storehouse. I was ill at Hamilton for a week ; after which time, I was hired by the agent of the Canada Company, to go to a Mr. Mc' Kensey's, at Andross Mills, on the banks of the Grand River, Niagara District, where I now am. I get 12s. 6d. per week, and board, and lodgings. I have been in my situation 9 weeks, and (with) what I have made by my wages ; I am now worth £'... It is a beautiful country, and all young people may make money fast : if they could bring out £100. with them, they would be sure of making a fortune, if they were steady, in a few years. Young men with a wife, without family, is better off than a single man ; as there are so many situations for them in gentlemen's families : the woman as housekeeper ; and the man as in doors servant ; where they get high wages. We have an Englishman and his wife, living with Mr. Mc' Kensey, who has been in the country only 5 years ; and is worth now, above £500, and was not worth 5s. when he first came. The mills I am living at, are saw mills : we cut 10000 feet of board per day. I wish Clifford had not been bound to Penfold, as they give money for boys, instead of taking it. I could have had an agreement, drawn up at York, for him to have had 300 dollars at the expiration of his 7 year's apprenticeship, to a carpenter. If you think of sending the other boys out, do not apprentice them, but send them to Hamilton to me. When you write, tell me (whether) you intend them to come or not : if you do, write again, and tell me, when they are to leave England, and I will meet them. I believe Penfold has taken some land, near Guelph ; but where, I do not know ; so, if you have heard of Clifford,

send me his address, when you write, which I hope will be as soon as you receive this; and tell me, how all the family are getting on at home. \* \* \* \* \*

I will send you some assistance in the spring, if nothing happens to me. Remember me to all friends, particularly to Mr. and Mrs. J.\*\*\*, not forgetting G. Hawkins: tell him he will hear more of me by G. Warren. Direct to me, Wm. Upton, County of Wentworth, Gore District, to be left at the Post Office, Hamilton, till called for. Give my love to all my brothers and sisters: tell them that can write, to write to me soon: and, if they cannot get a living in England, to come to Canada, where they may soon get an independency.

I remain, my dear mother,  
Your affectionate son,  
Wm. T. UPTON.

N. B. Tell me whether the times are better in England, since the Reform Bill has passed.

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*From Wm. T. Upton, late of Fittleworth, Sussex, to George Warren, Petworth.*

Andross Mills,  
Niagara District, Grand River,  
September 16th. 1832.

DEAR FRIEND,

\* \* \* \* \*

I dare say you

have heard bad accounts of Canada, from the Petworth Party; for I know that they wrote home in the midst of their trouble in travelling, before they knew what it was, or had time to get situations. I was above a month coming up the country, on account of my waiting at York for my box, which was put into the wrong ship at Portsmouth. I went from York to Hamilton, and, after a weeks illness, and quite broke down for money, I got a situation at a Mr. Mc. Kensey's saw mills on the banks of the grand river at 12s. 6d. per week, and board and lodging: I am the lowest, not understanding it: the others (get) from £1. to 32s. per week. I enquired at York and Hamilton, cabinet makers wages, which is 30s. per week, board and lodging, and plenty of trade to be got. I have been in my place now 9 weeks, and what with my wages, and what I have made with them, am now worth

£8. 10s. There is a man of property in 9 weeks. \*  
 \* \* \* \* If trade is as bad as it was, any one  
 would do better in Canada, for here any one can soon gain  
 an independency. \* \* \* \* Tell J. Lucas  
 that his brother Ned and C. Edwards are living close to me:  
 they get 11s. 3d. per week, and board and lodging, and are  
 quite steady. Write as soon as possible.

I cannot give you a more true account of the price of pro-  
 visions, and men's wages, than *Doyle's Hints to Emigrants*.  
 There were plenty given to the people about Petworth.

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*The two following letters were on the same sheet of paper, at  
 the top of which a few lines had been written by a friend  
 of the parties, before it left England.*

*From William Spencer, who went from Linchmere, Surrey,  
 to Francis Cooper, (his wife's father), Petworth, Sussex.*

September 16th. 1832.

Dear Father, and Mother, Brothers, and Sisters,

\* \* \* \* \* We arrived safe  
 in York, in Upper Canada. We came further up the coun-  
 try, about 30 miles, and there we went to work on the road,  
 for 3s. 3d. per day: we were staying with Mr. Jacob Truller;  
 and was enjoying a good state of health till the 22nd. August:  
 my dear wife was taken ill with the typhus fever, and she de-  
 parted this life on the 7th. of September: she was attended  
 with all the neighbours; and we have found them very kind,  
 much kinder here, than ever we did in England. I have  
 hired with Mr. Truller, by the year, and I am getting good  
 wages; and, if you feels any ways inclined to come, I think  
 it would be better for you; for I think you will get [a] bet-  
 ter living here than you ever will in England. I will find  
 you a home for you, till you can suit yourself better. I  
 am going to write to my brother in London, and I should  
 wish for you to let all my friends see this letter; and I  
 should be very glad to hear from you, as soon as you could  
 make it convenient to write: so no more at present, from  
 your affectionate son,

WILLIAM SPENCER.  
 So adieu.

*From George Boxall, (Sawyer) and his Wife, and Wm. Tilley,  
(his Wife's brother) who went from Lurgashall, Sussex;  
to James Tilley, Petworth.*

Dear Fathers; Mothers; Brothers; and Sisters,

\* \* \* We arrived safe in York, in Upper Canada; and we travelled up the country, and were settled near Wm. Spencer, and my brother; and we have got plenty of work, of sawing of steam boats; and we gets good pay for it; and we like this country much better than old England. My dear Alfred grows; and gets fat; and funny; and hearty: thank God for it. Dear father and mother, Hannah and James Tilley! if you feels any ways inclined to come out, and my brother, William Boxall, I think it would be better to get [a] living [here] than in England; but I shall not persuade you, against your incl'ation: but, if you comes, I will find you a home, till you can better yourselves. Boys and girls can have good places here; and I should be glad if you would let all my friends see the letter. Write to me as soon as you can. Remember me to Mr. and Mrs. ...., Mr. ...., and Miss ...., Mr. ...., and to all of my enquiring friends. There is but one thing grieves us: that will be leaving Elizabeth and \*Crank behind: and, if you comes, pray leave my poor mother at Henly, a sovereign; and I will pay you again. Be sure and do not forget the directions. So no more, at present, from your affectionate sons and daughter,

Wm. TILLEY, MARY AND GEORGE BOXALL.

So adieu.

This is the prices of this country. Barrel of flour, 196 lbs. price £1. 5s. Pork, 3d. per lb. Best green tea, 3s. 9d. Best butter, 7½d. Sugar, 6d. Tobacco, 1s. a pound. Best mutton and beef, 2½d. a pound. We makes our own soap, and candles. Price for work; sawyers, 10s. per hundred; single men about £20. at farming. If you comes, be sure and do not come under any superintendent, but mind, and buy plenty of flour; and bacon; and good cheese; tea: sugar; butter; currants; raisins; [and] tobacco. Buy your furnishings at Portsmouth. Get your flour in barrels; pack up all your goods, as you can iron hoop your boxes; and cord them strong; do not trust no locks.

Direct as follows. William Spencer, Mr. Jacob Truller's Township of Nelson, County of Halton, District of Gore, Upper Canada, North America.

\* His sister Elizabeth's husband.

September 24th 1882.

DEAR BROTHER,

I now take this opportunity of writing a few lines to you, for to let you know that I am well at present, hoping that when these few lines reach you, they will find you all in good health. We had a safe arrival across the ocean, landing at Quebec, thence up the river St. Lawrence, to Fort George, where there were several of us stopt, about twelve miles back in the country, where we expect to tarry for the winter; and the rest have gone on about a hundred miles further, into the country. We have all had the fever ague that stopped here, but we are getting over it; I am getting quite right again: and I feel happy that I ever took the resolution to leave my native home, [for] a country far easier to get an easy and honest living. I feel happy to think that we are here. Dear brother, we have not landed among thieves, nor robbers, but among christian people, where we can hear the gospel preached. I have nothing to regret only that my friends were not here, and as well suited with the country as I am. I wished to [be] remembered to Mr. Charman, and Hannah Charman. I feel a desire to see you all, and I think, if I have my health a few years, to pay you all a visit, Dear brother, I wished to be remembered to James Francis, and Mary White, and to my brother Daniel: I should feel happy if he were here with me now. Joseph Leggett is well, and wishes to be remembered to all his enquiring friends: and William Moore and his brother is well. Brother, I don't know but I shall come to see you next fall, or the spring following. We left Richard Neal\* at Little York. Brother, I hope you will improve the first opportunity of writing to me as I have nothing more to write at present, but I remain, your affectionate brother,

ELIAS ELLIOTT.

To

MR. RICHARD ELLIOTT,  
Sutton.

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\* He afterwards went to Dundas. v. his letters.

1882.

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*From Martin Martin, late of Felpham, Sussex, Carpenter, who emigrated with the Petworth Party to Upper Canada, and sailed from Portsmouth in the Ship Lord Melville, April 11th, 1832, taking with him his wife and six Children, to Mr. Sparks, Felpham, Sussex.*

SIR.

You have, no doubt, expected to hear from me long before this time : but the reason I did not send sooner was, that I had not seen enough of the country. To give you a short description of our voyage ; we had a very rough one, continually winds blowing against us ; so much, that before we arrived to the banks of Newfoundland, we was above 700 miles too far to the south : and on the 2nd. May, about half past 4 o'clock in the morning, all at a sudden crush, the whole of the berths on the larboard side of the ship fell down; but no one happened to be hurt, but caused a confusion in the ship : this brought the captain to his senses ; for he never laid the ship to, till this happened : but from this time, till the next morning, she was laid to, under a close reefed main top sail. But I hope what I have said about this will not dishearten any one from crossing the Atlantic, for I assure you, that I had so much confidence in a ship, that I would give the preference to travelling by water. We was just 8 weeks from Portsmouth harbour, till we arrived at Montreal, which town is a large, flourishing, and very fast improving place ; immense quantities of merchandise exported and imported, to and from this place. We staid there a few days ; and then we started in the boat for York in Upper Canada, which we reached in about a week. This passage is a very difficult one, on account of the different \* rapids in the river St. Lawrence : and whoever should come this way to America, I should advise them to travel by land from Montreal to Prescot, and wait there for their luggage ; and from Prescot to York, there is steam boats, which will take luggage and passengers in about a day and a half. But this land travelling will not do for a poor person. The expence from Montreal to York, for one passenger, which is 450 miles, 19s. 7d. I arrived at York, the capital of Upper Canada, and was much surprised to see such a large town : the trade, and the many great shops of all sorts, is quite equal to Chichester; but the town I think is larger, some of the streets  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length ; there I stayed about a week, but did not like to settle there. I again set off in the steam boat for Hamilton, which is quite at the west end of Lake Ontario ; and this is also a flourishing place, but a small town : here you will see the farmers come

riding in and out of this place, with as good breed of horses as in England, I staid here six weeks, travelling by land from Hamilton to Guelph, where I may perhaps settle; and I made it my business, as I went along, to make all enquiries about land, and its price and quality, &c. &c. I went through several different townships, and the farther I got to the west, the better is the land. You may always judge the depth of mould where the trees are blown down. The present price of land in the township of Guelph is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  dollars, or 17s. 6d. currency; in the township of Nicholl, is 3 dollars, and better land; in Woolwich township, 4 dollars; in the township of Garrafraxa, is 2 dollars an acre; in the township of Wilmot is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  dollars an acre; and in the Huron Tract is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  dollars. This land is not so difficult to clear as you might suppose; as the trees all grow up very straight, and there is no bushes grow amongst the trees. The way of clearing the land is; they chop, with a very superior sort of axe, off the tree, about 3 feet above ground; as soon as 'tis dry, they burn it; leaving the stumps still standing on the land, which will rot in about 6 years; and when they have burnt the brush wood, and the logs they spread the ashes. They sow the land with wheat, and the produce is from 25 to 35 bushels, which now sells for a dollar a bushel; and the first crop generally clears the whole expence of buying, and clearing and burning. Suppose you say the purchase to be 3 dollars; the price of chopping burning and fencing, is, from 12, to 14 dollars; so that your land will not cost you, when chopped, more than four pounds per acre; and when harvest comes, there is your money again. Here is no expence of ploughing the land the 1st. nor the 2nd. year; they harrow the seed in for the first 2 crops. Oxen is mostly used for this, because they are more steady than horses. A yoke of oxen is worth from 50 to 70 dollars; a horse about 100 dollars; a cow about 20 dollars. Mutton and beef is about  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. English money, butter  $7\frac{1}{2}$ , sugars the same; tea is 4s. per lb. Whisky is mostly the drink. The whole of the taxes for 100 acres is about a dollar a year, but no poor's rates, nor any other taxes to a farmer. Here is all sorts of farming implements suitable to the country, from the spade to thrashing machine, as well as the fanning ditto. And for about 5 gallons of whisky you can get a loghouse built; this is done by what they call, a "*Logging Bee.*" When you have cut your logs, you invite all your neighbours round you, to a certain distance, and they will raise the house in one day, rearing high, but you must roof it yourself, which is covered with shingle, and when finished looks like slate; all this you can get on your own land. Mr. Heming has bought 365 acres in this township, with some improvements on it, and he

is next week a going to have his "*Logging Bee*," and I am just going to finish the inside of his house, such as sashes and doors. And you would be surprised to see what a quantity of respectable people daily, a coming and settling, some buying 700, some 1000 acres of land. Here is a tailor, that come from Oxfordshire, that brought £600. he has 600 acres of land, 60 cleared, he has a capital framed barn, and a good dwelling house, and out houses, in short, his premises are very complete. Here is plenty of work for labourers, at about a dollar a day; and will be while there is so many settlers coming out: and no labouring man need to be afraid to come: when he gets to York, Captain Fitzgibbon will forward them to Hamilton; but almost all labourers get farms; and I have never seen any body in distress, since I have been in the country. There is a great many people that goes to the United States, but that is not so well for a farmer, the taxes are so much higher, I believe I may say as much as 8 to 1 more than it is here; but for all that, provisions is much cheaper, there than here: but for a mechanic, the United States is the best but not so healthy. The climate here in the summer, is much the same as in England, but more fine weather: we had about a fortnight's very hot weather, in the beginning of July, but not but what we could work as well as you could, in the old country: but the winter, from what I can learn from people that has experienced it, is colder, but not at all unpleasant. I am very much deceived in the idea that I had formed about this country, as you may travel from the east to the west part of the province in tolerable good roads; through towns and villages, and not at all lonesome. Whoever comes to this country, should pack all their luggage, that is not wanting in the voyage, in casks; and it is best for poor people to board themselves, and to bring plenty of flour: it will be better than so many biscuits; and plenty of potatoes. Since I have been writing of this, I have heard about the quality of the land in the Huron Tract, which is exceeding good at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  dollars per acre. I think of going to see it. Mr. Huntly, the bearer of this is waiting for it. I shall write to you again before the winter is over, and let you know what it is. I would thank you to make it known, that I intend to fulfil my promise in writing to several friends in Felpham, and its neighbourhood. Here is certainly a good chance for farmers and labourers. The cholera has been very bad in several parts, this summer, but it is a little better now. So no more at present,

M. MARTIN.

Guelph, Upper Canada,

North America.

Sept. 24th. 1832.

P. S. Mr. Huntley, the bearer of this, has bought a good deal of land in this township, and is going to England to take to a wife. I think that this conveyance will do away with the idea of letters being intercepted : I know there is several people silly enough to think, that all letters are broken up ; there is no such thing. Tom Sturt gave me a piece of foreign money, to put under his seal, when I wrote to him, for that purpose ; please to tell him, I will shortly write to him, and Tate, at Bognor. I forgot to mention a chance for labourers ; as soon as they arrive at York, that is the capital, they may have 50 acres of land at Lake Simcoe, 6 years to pay for it ; nothing the first 3 years, and sent to the place free of expense, and the price of the land is only a dollar per acre.

\* *With respect to the RAPIDS, See Advertisement from Canadian Courant in the Appendix.*

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*From Mr. Heming, vide Page 4.*

September 25th. 1832.  
Nyton Farm.

MY DEAR MOTHER,

Since my last letter I have been so engaged, getting in my harvest, &c. &c. that I have hardly known which way to turn myself. I have bought 134 more acres of land, with 30 in crop, and a loghouse to put \*Chase into. I have now 367 acres in all. The last lot is only  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Guelph, on the same road as my first purchase. Emigration has so greatly increased this year, that before this letter reaches you, all the land within 8 miles of Guelph, will be sold. It is, in my opinion, a most beautiful country, and excellent land. I am going to build a good loghouse, to get into before the winter sets in. My stock at present, consists of 1 yoke of cattle, 10 pigs, 1 cow and calf, 1 pony, Neptune and another dog, 1 cat, and 30 fowls, including hens and chickens. My land is paid for, excepting the 100 acres bought of the Canada Company. The improved land sells for much more than we conceived in England : quite rough land sells for 17s. 6d. per acre, if at all in a desirable situation. I have not been up to Lake Huron ; therefore I can only speak from report ; but am told, land, of the best quality, sells for 11s. 6d. per acre.

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\* *A labourer who went out with Mr. Heming.*

*From Wm. Pannell, who went from Kirdford, Sussex, to Wm. Pannell, at Kirdford.*

October 14th. 1832.

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER,

I have wrote these few lines to you, [hoping] to find you in good health, as it leaves [me] at present. I have been very poorly, with feverague. I had it for 5 weeks, but it has left for 5 weeks. I like the country very well at present; and I got plenty of work; and I get about 3s. 6d. per day and my board: and I do not get the highest wages at first; and there is plenty of work, for them that comes. But I did not find it as them told us, by a good deal; \* but I am working at carpenter's work, at present; but I [shall] have a few jobs at wheel making, in about a month's time. And I have got 100 acres of land; and I have 2 dollars an acre to pay for it; and I have six years to pay it in; but half to pay at 3 years hence; and it is very good land; but it is very full of timber; and it is very large timber; and there is a great deal of white oak; and red oak; and white oak is very tough; and there is white ash; and sugar maple: that is, what they get sugar out of. And we have plenty of game in America; plenty of deer; and turkeys; pheasants; partridges; and black squirrels; and red squirrels; and there is all sorts of wild animals; a great many bears, and wolves; but they will not meddle with any body: they will run away from you, as fast as they can; but the bear, if set by a dog after them, they will run up trees. And there is the finest river in America, as I ever saw; and there is [the] finest waterfall at Niagara: it falls for 100 feet down: and is about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile wide. It is near Chippewa. And the cholera has been very bad in America; but it is all done. And old Mr. Rapley is dead. William Haslett is dead too. And if any one comes to this country, they should not bring any axes; for they will not do for cutting down trees; but handbills are very good. Desire to remember me to all my acquaintances: and I should like to hear from all; and when you write, I should like to hear from John Baker, and Henry Hellyer, and Benjamin Barns,

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\* Meaning, that he did not find so much work at his own business, (a wheelwright) as he expected; and this may be accounted for, by his having gone up into a part of the country, where wheels are not yet much used.

and remember [me] to James Mitchenor; and James Hellyer; and, when you write to me, direct the letter to me, at Mr. Moulton's, London District, in Upper Canada : I should be near that place. There is a great many fish in the rivers ; but we had a long voyage over sea. We were 8 weeks going from Portsmouth, to Montreal. Quebec is about 450 miles nearer England ; but we are about 700 miles from Quebec ; and from Montreal, 250 ; York, 150 miles, up the Country.

Wm. PANNELL.

Jane Smart died with cholera, at Prescot. William Baker is with me, when I write this letter. Thomas Thomas is very well, and family. James Thomas, they are all very well. Benjamin Bachelor is very well. William Baker desires [to be] remembered to his father and mother, and all the family ; but he should like to see his brother Thomas, over here next summer. I should like an answer back, as soon as you can write. William Baker should have an answer from his friends. Tell them to direct a letter to the same place. I should like to see some Kirdford people over ; but I will not persuade them, but it is a great deal better than England. Every one that comes out, has got 100 acres of land, at 2 dollars an acre. It is as good land, as any in England ; but, if any body comes out, they should bring out some lucern seed, bent seed, tares. There are all sorts of grain, but them. If any body come out, they should not lay it \* out in England, for they can get cloathing very near as cheap. We have not any singing birds in this country, but the toads and frogs mount the tress, and sing very delightfully. There is no rubber to sharpen scythes, in this country. So no more, from your affectionate son,

Wm. PANNELL.

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*From John Allen Tribe, who went from Chiddington, Surrey, with his brother James Tribe, and his Uncle, Thomas Tribe.*

Township of Southwold, London District,  
Upper Canada, October 14th. 1832.

DEAR FRIEND,

\* \* \* \* \* We lost our passage from Coburg, 250 miles, to where I am now. My brother was in the schooner, and my box, or else I would not gone up so

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\* Meaning money.

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far : so I, and my uncle, and two more, came up by land, walking through the woods ; finding all kind of wild animals : we slept in the woods, two nights : we made a large fire, to keep the wild bears from us. The place that the vessel was going [to] was Kettle Creek, Upper Canada. We are all about the country. I know not where any of them that came with us, is, but my brother and uncle : some is one place, and some is another ; but I am in a good place now ; I get £20, a year, and every thing found me, but clothes : my brother gets £15. a year, and every thing but clothes found him : my uncle gets 60 dollars a year, and every thing found him, but clothes. Eatables is very cheap in this country, and labour is dear. You have heard the price of it before, so I did not send the price. Give my love to Charles Parkins, and let him see this letter. Charles, I have sent you a few lines, to tell you, that a shoemaker is a good trade in this country ; leather is about as cheap as it is in England, but not so good ; a shoemaker may earn a dollar and half a day if he will work : and I wish all the young men that is in Chiddington, was here in Canada ; for there is a good living for every one that comes here ; not as I will persuade any one to come here, but if any of them comes, I should like to see them : for, the most trouble is, coming over here, and up the country, for there is great trouble and fatigue. A carpenter, and a blacksmith, and a shoemaker, are three good trades in this country. Clothes is very dear ; cotton and calico is the dearest. The living is very good, in this country : there is plenty of whisky, brandy, rum, and gin, and all very cheap. I can get a pint of brandy for two shillings, York : a pint of whisky for one shilling, York. York money is not like yours ; one shilling, English ; is two shillings, York ; all but one penny. This is a fine country ; and a free country ; you can go where you like here, and no one to hinder you ; shoot any thing as you see, of wild fowl : and there is plenty [of] deer, there is a great many of them. James is very sick at present, with the ague ; every one that come into this country have it, but I have not had it, yet. There is no church within ten miles of us, now ; but we have got a place of worship to go to : it is a loghouse, and there they keep school for boys,, and girls. Where I live, is about a mile from the Lake Erie, Port Talbot. Give my love to my aunt and uncle, give my love to Mr. Elliott, and to Mr. White and Mrs. White. Give my love to Harriet Jones, and to Mary Ann White. Give my love to Mr. Sadler, and tell him that it was the best thing he could do for me, when he sent me here to

Canada, North America. Give my love to all that is in the house, both young and old ; and give my love to William Fielder, and all your children. Thomas Tribe is very well ; and he sends his love to his sister, and he will send her a letter in a short time. I should send more, but had not time ; so no more at present, from your humble servant,

JOHN ALLEN TRIBE.

If you sends, please to direct for me, John Tribe, Township of Southwold, London District, Upper Canada.

To be left at the Post Office, Port Stanley, till called for.  
For Mr. George Fielder,

Hambleton House,  
Hambleton, Godalming, Surrey,  
England.

*From Ann, the wife of Edmund Thomas, who went from Kirdford, to her father, Thomas Puttock.*

October 15th. 1832.

MY DEAR FATHER,

I write these few lines to you, hoping to find you in good health, as, thank God, it leaves us at present. We had a very long voyage over. We were 9 weeks on the seas. We landed the 7th, of June. We were tossed about very much indeed. The 3rd. of May we all thought of being lost; the berths all fell down, from one end of the ship to the other; and I was not well after that, till I was confined, and that was on the 3rd. of June. I got about again quite as soon as I could expect. It is a fine boy, and goes on well. I am happy to tell you, that America is quite as good as we expected to find it. Edmund has had plenty of work, ever since we have been here. We have no reason to repent leaving England, at present, and I hope we never shall. He has earned 3s. 9d. a day, and his board ; and, sometimes, not so much. Give my love and Sarah's [her sister] to my brothers and sisters. Sarah is about 30 miles from me, in service, and is doing very well. Give Edmund's love to his father and mother, and all. Thomas [Thomas] and James [Thomas] are about 100 miles [off] they are all well, and send their love to all. If Thomas and William [her brothers] should come out next spring, it is Sarah's and my wish for you to come with them ; as I think we should [be able] to help support you here. The worst of it will be getting over. Edmund's brothers has got 100 acres of land each. We might have 100 acres, if we

liked to go where it is ; but we don't like to leave the place where we are, at present. The cholera has been very bad indeed in this country, but thank God, not one of us has had it. Henry Smart's wife is dead ; and both his children : she was confined the same night that I was. Please to thank Mr. Greetham for his kindness to us, and I hope he will do the same for you, if you should come. We have had a very fine summer, but hotter than in England, and they say, the winter is much colder; but there is one great comfort here ; we have as much wood as we like to burn. If you should come, you had better send us a letter on, when you get to York, for us to meet you. Please to answer this, on the first opportunity, as I should very much like to hear from you. I have no more to say, at present. I remain your affectionate daughter,

ANN THOMAS.

Addressed.

Thomas Puttock,

Stroud Green, Kirdford, near Petworth, Sussex,  
England.

Direct to me, Waterloo Township, Gore District, Upper Canada.

*From James Rapson, (Sawyer,) who went from Lodsworth, Sussex.*

Galt, Dumfries, Gore.  
October 16th. 1832.

DEAR FATHER !

(The first part relates only to the voyage and progress up the country ; which is described in other letters.) \*

\* \* \* \* \* And now I shall tell you all that I know about the country. The place where we are, is most like Lodsworth, \* of any in the province, as I have been in. We had in the middle of August, a very severe frost ; the ice at Guelph, was  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch thick : and killed the produce of the country. That is 14 miles from us ; and, in the Huron Tract, the frost have been far more severe, than in any other part of the province. Until the middle of August, very dry ; and more hot than in England; it dried up the Oats:

\* (A village near Petworth.)

very good crop of wheat ; it killed the Indian corn, potatoes, and pumpkins, and cucumbers ; and the vines. The produce is wheat, oats, Indian corn, rye, winter barley, peas, very fine. Potatoes and pumpkins grow in the fields, 4ft. 8in. round, and cucumbers with them, and melons ; good cabbage, but very backward ; no beans ; plenty of dwarf, and french beans ; fine crop of apples at Hamilton, and Dundas, at 7½d. per bushel. We are 20 miles from Dundas ; 25 miles from Hamilton. I must say, that I think that we should have half died, if it had not been for the pigeons ; we shot 30 of a day : one man shot 55 at 5 times ; and he pitched a net, and caught 599 at one draw. Here is plenty of pheasants ; of rabbits ; and ducks ; and geese ; deer ; foxes ; wolves ; and bears ; which come into our ground : they have killed a hog, and got it over a fence, 7 ft. high, and 5 pigs. Here is squirrels, from the size of a mouse, to a rabbit, numbers of them. I will now tell you, who is dead. Henry Gogger, E. Luff, J. Kingshott, 1 child of his, Mrs. Morley, their youngest child, Mrs. Capelain,\* and 5 of her children, B. Chalwin, George, and Henry Lander, Mrs. Adsett, and 1 child, and many more : so the Lord hath thinned us out. The cholera have raged very much, in Quebec, and Montreal, and York, and swept off thousands ; and it followed us all along up the river, about a day behind us ; and it have been all around us, but not within 2 or 3 miles of where we live : so we have cause for gratitude. I must say, that little James Penfold have been to work a month, and earned enough, to find us all in flour, a month, and his own board ; 16 of us. I have been to lime burning, and we took 2 houses to finish : had 24 dollars. I have  $\frac{1}{2}$  a dollar a day, and board ; but Jesse Penfold,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a dollar. Plenty of work ; but, the people live in a different way to what we have been used to ; but, they live well. The people have never seen a pitsaw ; and, when I talk about sawing, they laugh at me ; and I can buy inch boards, at the mill, for 1s. 7½d. per hundred ; better boards than ever I saw in England. I wish you would see what the merchants would give me, if I get 6000 feet of our pine hewed and towed in a raft, to Montreal. Our ground is within 300 yards of [the] grand river : we have 47 acres, and timber, 200 feet long, 4 feet through : we have a good house up : and I have 2 good cows : and seems, if please God, as if we should do well. Tell Robert Tribe, that his

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\* See Capelain and Adsett's letter. § A carpenter.

mother says, she would go a thousand miles to meet him. We are all well, except Henry, he is poorly: tell him all is well. I shall expect some, or all, of my brothers, next spring; I wish they were all as well off, as I am. I wish you to go to Mr Chrippes, and the Rev. Mr. Sockett, and tell them, that I return them many thanks, and Lord Egremont, for his kind benevolence, with Esq. Yaldwin. Tell them, that I hope and pray; not that the Lord would give Canada, but make them meet for the heavenly Canaan.

Believe [me] to [be] your loving son,

JAMES RAPSON.

\* \* \* \* Here is a Scotch presbyterian minister, who preaches in a grist mill, which is crowed very much; but it is not what I have been used to. Charlotte [their eldest daughter, aged 15] is with us, and will be until Sarah gets up stairs. She might have a dollar a week. The children are all well; and are grown very much; and are often running out, to see if they can see any of you coming: sometimes they say, Here comes grandfather! or, Here comes grandmother! Indeed we want you, many ways: we want you to make cider; as here is nothing to drink, but whisky. We want a malt mill, very much; as here is no such thing, in the province. Remember me to all my brothers, and sisters. Sarah's love to all: and tell Rhoda, that she will look for her, next spring. God bless you all.

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*From Henry Smart, who went from Kirdford; directed, Mr. James Napper, Kirdford; but containing on the same sheet, letters to other persons.*

Ancaster, (5th. November,  
and I hope you will remember, 1832.)

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER [*i. e.* his late wife's father  
and mother.]

I hope this will find you all well, as it leaves me at present. I am sorry I had to send you such bad news, the last time I wrote to you, or the last time you heard from me, by the way of Penfold. We had a very long passage; and a very rough one. My wife was sea sick three weeks: but she was no worse after that, than she was before she left home: but she was unwell, at times, the same as she was at home. Frederick was but very little sea sick, but was taken

with a very bad fever, and, for three days, I did not expect he would live, from one hour to another : but he recovered, a little. We had a bad squall, one morning, which threw us, and our berths out, altogether ; but we received no damage, any more than a fright. When we crossed the banks of Newfoundland, Jane was taken very ill, and we expected she would be confined; but she passed on, for about a week, much the same as she was, when she was confined before. We sailed into Quebec harbour, the 10th. of June, about 8 o'clock, and she was confined, about 12 o'clock, while the ship was at anchor, thank God for it ! the ship being still : she was confined with a girl, but it did not live, but four and twenty hours, and we left it in the harbour where it was born. Jane was better than we could expect ; we was in the ship, four days, after she was confined, before we landed in Montreal. There she was taken out ; and put into a large house, and she got her strength very fast : for I got her every thing she could wish for. We staid there four days, when she wanted to go out for a walk : I took her out and she was very much pleased with the country ; and said, she was not sorry that she had left England. Then we started up the river, in a Durham boat ; the weather was very fine ; we was in the boat, 7 days, when we landed at Prescot. The weather was fine till the last day. We stopped at Prescot, three days; and she was very \*pert ; and getting on very well ; but the third, I was very sick ; but she was as pert, as ever. I saw her till about noon : she was very cheerful that day ; and laughed, and said, that I should die first : but, about four o'clock, she was taken very ill ; and said, if there was not an alteration soon, she should soon be gone ; and I went and got a doctor to her, but he gave a very poor account of her. As soon as he see her, the doctor said, he would do all he could for her, and, I believe he did. All the rest went out in the steam boat, the next morning at 6 o'clock ; and left me, all alone. I applied to 3 doctors, but two of them said, it was no use ; they would not pay any attention at all to her ; but the other did : and done all he could for her. He told me, it was no use ; she had the cholera ; and she could not live, but a few hours. She was insensible, at that time ; but at 10 o'clock, she came to her senses ; and talked to me for an hour : she told me she was going ; she told me not to fret for her ; she should be better off, than I was : but all she wanted of me, was, to promise her, to take as good care of her child, as I had done of her ;

\* In Sussex this word means lively, cheerful.

which I promised her I would. So she died that day, at 12 o'clock, the 25th. June. She died ; and never mentioned, father ; mother ; sister ; nor brother ; any more than her sister, Martha, who was dead and gone, and who said, on her death bed, that she would soon be after her ; and she was going. She wanted to be buried in the way her sister was, but I could not bury her so well as I could wish. About an hour before she died, Frederick was taken very ill, with the bowel complaint, and died 8 days after. I was obliged to go on to Hamilton, on account of the cholera, and I was still very ill, then ; but still I kept about. I buried my wife at Prescot ; and my child, at Hamilton. I am as much as two hundred miles, from where I buried my wife ; but my child, I can look upon every week. I kept about all this time, but after, I was confined to my bed, for a week, which the doctors said, was brought on me, by trouble. Remember me to Charles and Ann Street. Tell Ann, I am very sorry her words are come so true, as she told me before I was married. Jane told me not to reflect upon her dying out of England ; she did not think she died, any the sooner for that. Tell Ann Street ; that I am very sorry, I have heard the worst account of her brother, of any, that is come out. I shall see him, next week ; and I shall give it him. He is as much as a hundred miles from me, but I am going up next week, and I shall see him. So no more from me at present,

HENRY SMART.

*To James, the Son of Mr. Napper, to whom the above was addressed.*

JAMES NAPPER,

This comes with my kind love to you, and all the family. I hope this will find you all in good health, as it leaves me at present. Remember me to all my brothers and sisters, if you please, and to Charles Brockburn, and Mary Court, Gunshot : and to all enquiring friends at home ; and tell them of my downfall ; as they have heard before. I don't repent of leaving England at all, because my wife did not ; no more would not you, if you was once to get here. I should be happy to see you here, and Tom Baker, and sister Rhoda, and her family. I don't persuade you to come, but I should be glad to see them, for I know they would do much better here than there. Ask my sister, Rhoda, if she will accept this little present ; and tell her she must keep it, till

I see her again. If she don't come here, I intend to come to England, after a few years, if life lasts ; but never more, not to stay. You need not dread the water, I don't at all. I should take a deal of pleasure on the water, had it not been for my ill luck. Look to that book, that you got of me, about the country,\* for I fully agree with it. Tell Matthew Puttick, that he can keep three such families, as he has got, in this country, better than he can keep one, there. Tell David Smart, I saw Tom Mitchell, about a week ago. They are all well, and doing well ; and Tom says ; he never wants to come to England any more. If any of you comes out, don't buy a parcel of clothes, to bring here ; if you do, you wi'l lose money by it : you can get them fully as cheap here. I would not advise you to bring out any thing, excepting blankets, and flannel. Why you think things are so dear, here, is ; because, on account of the money ; thirteen pence, of your money, is two shillings, here. Write me an answer, as soon as you can, if you please, and let me know all the news you can, and how the cholera is there ; for it has been very bad here ; and let me know who talks of coming out, as well as you can. If you, or any of my relations, come out, I will do all I can for them, at first coming. They shall not want for a bed, nor for something to eat, when they once get to me. You need not be afraid of coming out here, on account of not getting a wife. You can get one of any country, and any colour you like. You can come here, and go back again in a few years, a better man, than ever your father was. If you are not here by the 5th. July, I shall be gone from here, but my directions will be, at Mr. Gurnett's, which you will see, as you go up the town. At present, Matthew Crooks, Esq. Ancaster, Upper Canada.

*On the same sheet, from Henry Smart, to James and Charles Rapley.*

James and Charles Rapley, Gownfield, there, or elsewhere. I have heard from your brother, William : but your father is no more. He has been dead about five weeks ; but you need not fret about your younger brothers, and sisters, for they will do better than you will, if you bides there. William is very steady ; and takes a father's part, well, by what I have heard. I have not seen them, since they have been in this country, yet, but I shall see them all, next week.

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\* Doyle's *Hints to Emigrants*.

*From Henry Smart, to the Rev. I. K. Greetham, Vicar of Kirdford.*

**MR. GREETHAM,**

I am much obliged to you, for what you have done for me. I wanted to beg one more favor, if you please ; that is, I shall be much obliged to you to take my register out, and send it to me, if possibly you can. You will find it in the church at Kirdford ; but you must look back, as much as nine and twenty years. I forgot to say before, as Wm. Haslett is dead; but he has been dead as much as three weeks. No more from your humble servant, at present,

**HENRY SMART.**

*On the same sheet, from William Baker, late of Kirdford.*

**DEAR MOTHER,** \* \* \* \* I am very sorry to do, as I have done. When I left Montreal, I left my sister very ill ; little thought but I should see her again. Not but what I am satisfied she was done well by, as if I was there ; for Henry attended to her, both night and day, while we was aboard the ship, and so he did afterwards, to all account. I never saw my brother, till three weeks ago ; and then I had cut off one of my fingers, and very near, another. I could not work, and I got out of money ; and my sister troubled me so I was determined to find him out, if I could. I travelled down to Ancaster, a hundred miles, and I begged my way, (though I never wanted any thing) for three days, and there I heard of him. He was very angry with me at first, but I owned myself in fault. I staid with him four days, and he relieved me with seven dollars. Then I started back up the country, and I will never leave him, for so long a time, any more. My fingers are got nearly well, and I shall soon be able to go to work ; and I can do a great deal better here, than I can at home ; and I should be very glad to have my brother Tom come out. So no more from me, at present.

**Wm. BAKER.**

*On the same sheet, from Frank Nash, late of Kirdford.*

Frank Nash, to his mother and father. He is well, and doing well ; and, never means to come to England, any more; unless his cousin, Henry, does. He takes me as his friend, and tells me, he will do as I wants him to do, and he will do very well.

Direct to Henry Smart, Ancaster, Upper Canada, (and say) by the first packet ship, for New York.

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*From Richard Neal, to his father, William Neal. See p. 5.*

Dundas, November 18th. 1832.

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER, \*

\* \* \* I sent you a letter in July; but I have not had any answer, yet; but I hope you will send me one, soon. Dear Friends, I hope, if any body is coming to America, you will give them my directions, and let them come to Dundas. I sent Edmund Harwood a letter, last sunday, by a man that is coming to England, and I hope, if you receive the letter you will go to Littlehampton, and so, his name is Reeves. I have not seen Joseph Leggatt, or Elias Elliott, since I left York; but I heard from them, last week; they are getting on, very well. I hear they have hired for twelve months, but I shall go and see them, in the winter, when I cannot work. Charles Hilton is about 100 miles further up, than I. He took 100 acres of land. The 5th. of November, my master was buried, which I worked for, ever since I have been in Canada: his name was, Thomas Pope, from North-hamtonshire, England. He has been here, 5 years: he left three children, in England, when he came to America: he have, a fifty acres of land, and a house: it is all to be sold; and debts paid; and the rest of the money, sent to England, for the children: he owes me, about £15. but I expect to be paid, in two weeks. I have took his work. I have four men, to work for me, and I have work enough for two more if I could get them. Bricklayers gets, 7s. 6d. per day. I never seems contented here, as I was in England. I do not like Canada, so well as England, but in England, there is too many men: and here, there is not enough: there is more work than we can do, here. There is a long winter, here; and very cold, they tell me; but, if I live to next spring, I shall be able to tell you more about it: here have been snow and frost, here, but it is mild now. I expect we shall not be able to work, more than 3 weeks longer. We have plenty plastering to do. Tell my brother William; if he feels inclined to come, here is plenty of work, and good wages: but I will not persuade any body, to come, without they like: but here is plenty to eat, and drink; and cheap: but there is a great many don't like this country, nor more do I, myself; but I can get plenty [of] work here, and I cannot in England, without it [is] altered since I was there. I can earn £2. 5s. a week, English money, if I have my health. \*

I am your dutiful son,

RICHARD NEAL.

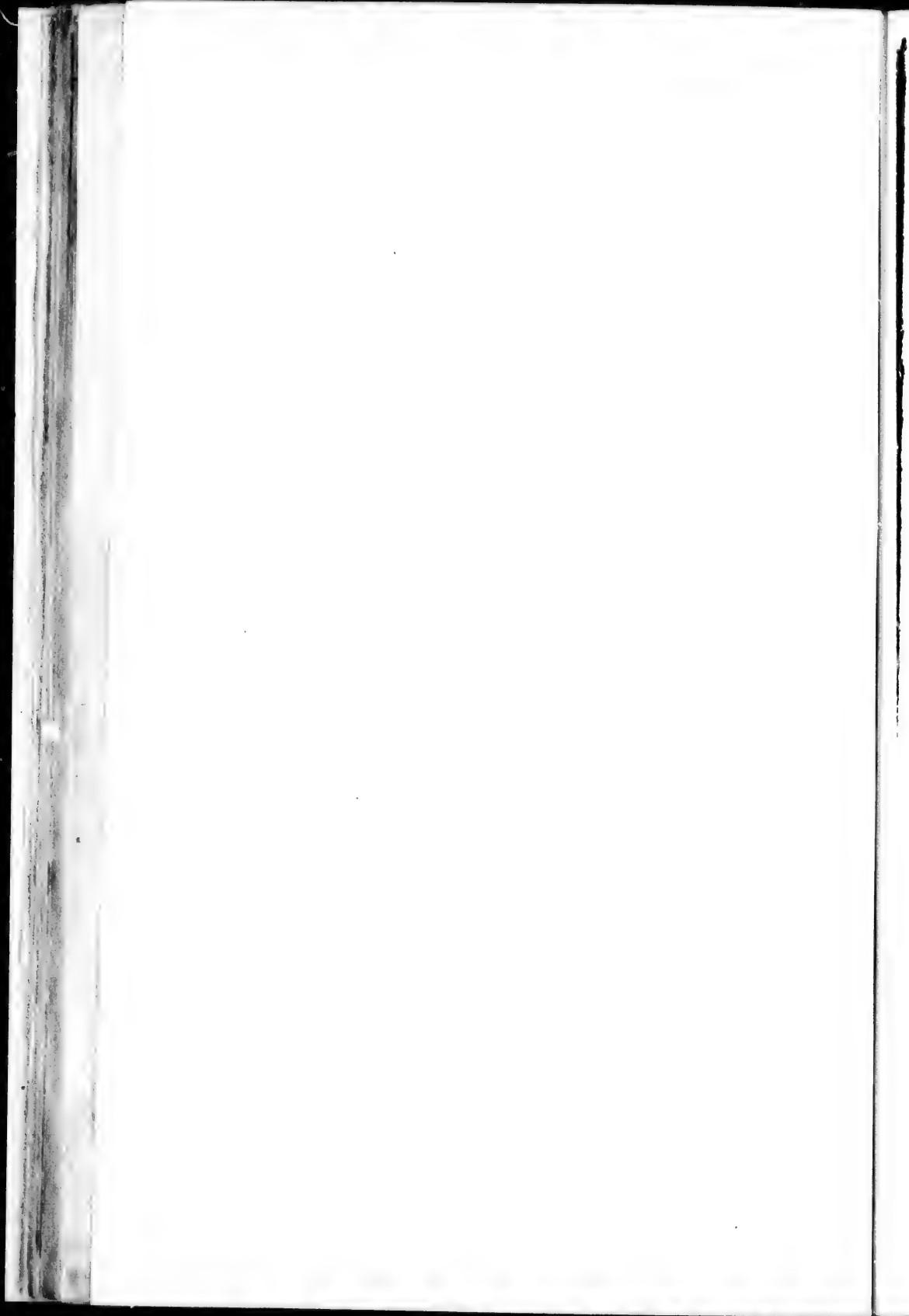
*From Mary, the daughter of Thomas Holden, Widower, who went from Kirdford, Sussex, with 7 children. To Srgt. Holden, 2nd. Regt. Tower Hamlets Militia.*

The heading was written on the paper, before it left England.

**DEAR BROTHER.**—*When you are in Canada, fill this up, and send it to me; send all the news you can; say the truth, and nothing but the truth. Sarah Holden, Slinfold, near Horsham, Sussex, England.*

**DEAR FRIENDS,**

This comes with our kind love to you all, hoping to find you all in good health, as thank God it leaves us alive, and well at present. We were all very sea sick, and had a very long and rough voyage. On the 2nd. of May, about half past 4 in the morning, the sea was very rough, and the ship was tossed, so that the berths, on our side, fell from one end of the ship to the other, but no one was hurt a great deal. We were driven so much towards the north, we had very hard frosts and snow, and it was very cold, and we often thought that we should go to the bottom; but our heavenly father, that awful Protector of persons, brought us safe to land at last. We were six weeks getting to Quebec; we did not go a shore there; we landed at Montreal, and we were then towed up the river by Durham boats to Prescot, and then in steam packets to York, and from York, 350 miles, in schooner vessels to Kettle Creek. And we were then carried in waggons up the country, 66 miles. It was the 22nd. of July, when we got to where we are settled. Father has got 100 acres of land, and has to pay for it two dollars per acre, in six years time. Father thinks of getting in two acres of wheat this year. We have got a cow. Father gave 30 dollars for her. We expect to find very hard times this winter. We have ten miles to go for flour, and all our provisions, but I hope, please God will help us through it this winter. The Gentleman is going to have a log house put up for us. Ann, and Harriet, and Ruth, have got places 40 miles from us. Father says he can see a good prospect of doing well after a few years. It is good land. Father sends his kind love to all of you, and hopes that you will make up your minds, and take a good resolution and come here, for here is a good prospect of doing well, and getting a good living. Father says he would not come back to England again for no respects. Dear



friends, if you should come, this is where I'll direct you to come to, Kettle Creek, the township of Adelaide. To Kettle Creek, and then to the township of Adelaide, in Upper Canada; as that is where we are, but you may understand that all the letters be all opened, before they go out of this Country, to see that there is not any falsehood sent; and if there is any thing in them, against the country, they are kept back. I hope you will be so kind as to send this letter, or write another and send to all our friends, and pray do send to poor mother's friends at Chiltington *William's letter*, and tell them in their letter, to write to poor aunt at Goring: Please to write again as soon as you can. We have heard that the old ship that we came in is drowned, and 5 were saved, and 10 drowned. We are 500 miles from Montreal.

So no more at present, God bless you all.

\* Dear friend, we have enquired about the letters, to know the fact and truth about their being opened by the head gentlemen. So that we are sure now that they are not opened, until you receive them. Father have sowed 2 acres of wheat, and thinks of getting in one acre of potatoes, and one acre of Indian corn, in the spring, if please God. We have got a warm house now thank God. We have been exposed to all weathers ever since we came out of the old ship, until the 20th. of October: so I will leave you to guess, dear friends, what we have gone through. We did not enjoy our tea what you gave us, dear aunt; for the wet got through the chest, and wet it; and when we came to open it, behold it was all spoiled, the strength was gone, and stained some of our things. I hope you will excuse my bad writing. If any comes, which I hope you will, please to bring some dried yeast, for there is none here: we wet our flour, and bake it on the ashes. Poor father has been very ill: had the ague: I thought he would have died, but the Lord raised him up again, and is as well now as ever he was, thank God. So God bless you all.

I was obliged to open the letter again, to put in the right direction, that you should direct to us: To *Colonel Mount, Caradoc*, in Upper Canada: by so doing, it will be sure to come to us.

To Serjt. Holden,

Second Regt. Tower Hamlet Militia, Light Infantry,  
London, England.

Postmark, Delaware, 21st. November.

\* *The latter part seems to have been added at a much later period.*

*From Thomas Adsett, who went from North Chapel, Sussex, to  
the Rev. Robert Ridsdale, Rector of that parish.  
[Written on a sheet of paper, which Mr. Ridsdale had directed  
to himself, and given to the man when he went away.]*

December 21st. 1832.

(In the early part he speaks of the voyage &c. and  
mentions the death of his wife and youngest child, see p. 18.)

\* \* \* \* \* My son Charles is with [me], and I am going to bind him to be a tanner, with the man I am now living with : and my oldest daughter is in a very good place, and my other little girl is in another place, near the other, and will remain there, till they be able to do for theniselves. They are people that has no children of their own, and was very glad they could get them, from me : so that I shall have no more trouble, but go and see them, when I please ; and if it had not been that I had lost my wife, I could have [been] more comfortable. I thank God, that my children has got two such good houses as they have, and I am a great deal contenter, than in England, and can make a good living. I can live better with working one day, than in England in seven, and there is a great many people living near me, that comes from the same place that I did ; and it is a very healthful place, and the climate good : the land is in middling way for being good ; and some raises very good crops. [*Here comes an account of produce and prices, much the same as in many others.*] The people where we are, they are most Dutch, and a great many English and Scotch. All people in this country that will work, may gain property very fast, with care, and industry. The country is increasing with ministers, and hearers very fast, and I think, the people in this country is seeking after religion more than in England, but they have more time, and enjoys more pleasure, than in England. There is little or no Tax in Canada; but we can have the goodness of it, ourselves : we do not have to take a piece of dry bread, in our pockets, and go to our 6d. a day work here ; but we go to eat with our master and mistress ; and have the best that the world can afford of all kinds, and spirits, and ale on the table, every time we sit down to eat. All the farmers that I see, is independent, and has plenty ; and I wish that the poor people in England had the leavings of their tables, that goes to their dogs, and hogs ; they live better than most of the farmers in England ; that is, our dogs. I do not see any body going from door to door, like in England.

that would be a disgrace to the country, and the people that is in it. I must conclude, for I have not room on my sheet to write. I hope that you will be so kind as to send for my father, or let him see it, if he is spared in the world ; and tell my poor old father to send me a letter back, and direct for Thomas Adsett, Waterloo, Galt, Post Office, Halton.

Direct your letter to, province of Upper Canada, Halton County, Gore District, Galt post office.

To the Rev. Robert Ridsdale,  
Northchapel, near Godalming Surrey,  
England.

*The letters from which the following extracts were made, have come into the hands of the Committee, since the above were printed.*

*Extract of a letter from William Phillips, who went from Merton, Sussex.*

Adelaide, Upper Canada,  
July 28th. 1832.

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER.

[The first part contains an account of the voyage as far as York.]

Here [York] they put us on board 3 schooners. Two went to Hamilton: \* they are not got here yet: ours went across the Lake into the Welland Canal, only 18 miles long, and only 37 locks in it, to Chippewa, 2 miles above the falls, which I went under to see, down a well stair case, 172 steps. I have heard Eden say, you could turn a waggon there, but it must be a very small one. Here we was towed by oxen, 9 miles up the Niagara river, opposite to Buffaloe ; there the Yankey doctors came to inspect us, but would not suffer us to cross the river. Here we staid 6 days for a fair wind ; then sailed for Kettle Creek, or Port Stanley, 170 miles, where we landed on the 6th. of July, but was not allowed to cross the river, on account of Mrs. Hilton being sea sick. They brought us boards, to make us shanteys, and victuals to eat. We now went by land, to Delaware, 25 miles, to Colonel Mount's : he had orders from

\* Those who went by them, settled at, and near Dundas, Ancaster, Galt, Guelph, &c.

York, to let us have 100 acres of land each, in the township of Adelaide, at 2 dollars per acre : one fourth to be paid in 3 years' time, and the remainder in 3 years more. This is said to be the best land in Upper Canada ; it is well watered and level, not a stone to be seen, they say, for forty miles. I have plenty of timber on my land : some of the trees will square 6 or 7 feet; 89 feet from the roots without a branch. Dear father, I hope you will come and help me next summer ; and bring me all sorts of seeds that grows in England ; you had better stay till after harvest, and bring some cuttings of gooseberries, apples and grapes, that I may have some English fruit: you can bring them in a tub. Dear father, I would not advise you to come here, if I did not know it would be to your advantage, even if you spend your last shilling to get here : and bring uncle Carpenter with you, and he, nor you will never repent coming here, for I can get you both a farm, if you want one ; and you can earn money enough, in one year, to pay for it yourself. Dear father, William Cooper, and Edward Boxall, and his wife, and I lives together, and works on our own land : we shall sow 6 acres of wheat this fall, and more in the spring : their friends live at Graff ham ; some of them will come here next year, and I hope you will come with them. I must conclude with my kind love to you, and all enquiring friends. So-no more at present, from your dutiful son,

WILLIAM PHILLIPS.

Direct to William Phillips,

Township of Adelaide, Upper Canada, to be left at  
Colonel Mount's, Delaware, North America.

*From Humphrey Cooper, shoemaker, who went from Fittleworth, Sussex, with his wife and 3 children. To Mr. J. Turner, Fittleworth.*

York, October 25th. 1832.

SIR,

[In the beginning of the letter he states, that altho' he might have had land near Lake Simcoe, he found that he could not settle there comfortably, without more capital than he at present possesses.] \* \* \*

\* So I thought I had better give up all thoughts of land, and go on with shoemaking, which I think it is the most profitable trade here : the journeyman's wages are very

high; if you put out the best top boots to make, they are £1. 5s. making: wellington boots, 14s: and common boots that people wear, instead of high shoes, are 7s. 6d. making; women's low shoes 8s. I have got more work than I can do myself. I am happy to tell you, I never had a better chance in my life to do well. We have got a nice house, built up on purpose for us; it belongs to an English gentleman & the rent is high; we pay £20. a year, and a favor to get it; and if you go for a single room, you will not get one under 7s. 6d. per week. We have had every thing to buy for our use, which have been a great expence; we now have got a stove to get, for the winter; as the cold is so great, every body haves them in their houses. The cold weather lasted 7 months last winter, and snow laid on the ground 18 weeks. The people say it is nice dry weather, though cold, flannel must not be spared.

In respect to trades; journeyman's wages are very high; from 5 to 7s: per day, and the meanest labourers have 3s. 9d. per day. Meat is reasonable; beef 3½ per lb. good stakes 5d. hog-meat 3½ per lb. bullocks heart 7½d. spirits and wines are as dear here, at the inns, as in England; but if you go to a store house, you can get a quart of port wine, for 15d.; a quart of whisky for 9d., brandy 1s. 6d. and 2s. per quart. I have a great wish for William [his son] to come over, as soon as an opportunity serves, as I know that here is a good chance for him to do well, if he have a mind to it, or any other person that is industrious, that comes over. My wife and myself and family, wishing you health and happiness, and to all enquiring friends. I hope, some time, I shall have an opportunity of coming to England, to see my friends.

I am, &c.

HUMPHREY & C. COOPER.

P. S. I am sorry there is so many people that comes out of England, gives the country a bad name; it is that sort of people that won't work, and give their mind up to drink and idleness.

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*The snow does not lie so long by 3 weeks, or a month at Adelaide, Niagara, or Guelph.*

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